



Transcript English for "Strange Animals in German"

Hello and welcome back to my YouTube channel Mindmap your German. I am Christine, and today we are going to talk about strange animals in German. You probably know the animals quite normally, those down here anyway. That's a cat, a pig, a dog, and a donkey.

However, these animals and many others also occur in German in compound words. And quite often it is the case that if the animals occur in these compound words, then the animals no longer mean exactly what they otherwise mean, namely the animal, but have a completely different meaning.

I've picked out some sample words for you that we'll talk about now. We'll start with the Eselsohr, then I'll have the Bücherwurm, the Dreckspatz, the Katzenwäsche, the Frosch im Hals, the Pfingstochse, the Schlangelinien, the Schweinehund, and the Gänsehaut for you. Maybe you've heard some of these words before, maybe you haven't. I'll tell you what it's about now.

We'll discuss the Eselsohr first. What is an Eselsohr? Of course, Eselsohr is this and also this, but in the German language, an Eselsohr is the term you use when you simply fold over a book page at the top of the corner with a book or a piece of paper, for example, and if that is so folded over, then it is called the Eselsohr. It's the question of why it's called that. You could also say Pferdeohr or something else, but the name is

Eselsohr.

The second word we're talking about is the Bücherwurm. There is a synonym for this, namely the Leserate. And a Bücherwurm or a Leserate is a person or a person who loves to read very much, who you will never meet without books, who always has a book in his hand and reads. This is a Bücherwurm or a Leserate.

Then we have a Dreckspatz. These are often children, children who, for example, never wash their hands or who very much like to play in a sandbox or in a puddle or in mud. Mud is the mixture of sand and water, so, the very brown thing. And then these children are dirty, and then you jokingly call them Dreckspatz. Spatz perhaps also because it is a very small bird, and the Dreckspatzen are usually small children. So, people who are 60, 70, 80 years old are usually not Dreckspatzen anymore. When this Dreckspatz comes home, he or she is first bathed or showered. But if there is not so much time for that, because Mom says we absolutely have to go to kindergarten, we absolutely have to go shopping, we absolutely have to go to Grandma and Grandpa's, we don't have time for the bath or for the shower, then there is a Katzenwäsche.

Katzenwäsche means washing very quickly, a little water here, a little water there and done. Nothing more. So, very quickly. It's not the bathtub session where you spend an hour in the bathtub with a book. It's not the fifteen-minute shower under hot water, but washcloths, a little water, a little soap, done. This is a Katzenwäsche.

The Frosch im Hals. I've sometimes got a Frosch im Hals. The throat is this. A frog is this green animal, which you often find in ponds, in lakes, and a Frosch im Hals means that you have something in your throat - mmm - and you have to keep doing this - mmm. This activity is called clearing your throat because something is bothering you here and you can no longer speak well. And that's called a Frosch im Hals.

We're going to the Pfingstochse. Pfingstochse - an ox is a type of cow or beef. Oxen are eaten a lot at Munich's Oktoberfest. A Pfingstochse is something completely different. Perhaps you have heard of the feast of Pentecost before. Pentecost is seven weeks after Easter, and Pentecost is a religious festival. And when you say you look like a Pfingstochse, it means that someone is dressed way too elegantly, wears way

too much jewelry, makes up way too much, has a way too elaborate hairstyle. So, it's a bit too much of everything, and then you look like a Pflingstochse. So, too colorful, too glittery, too elegant, not according to the occasion. A Pflingstochse. Too much decoration.

We're going to the Schlangenlinien. Schlangenlinien is not a person, but Schlangenlinien is what you can do with the car, with the bike, with the motorcycle on the road. Schlangenlinien mean that you don't drive straight ahead, you drive like that. So, you keep making turns. And you ride Schlangenlinien, you may often see that on motorcycles, on purpose. Some motorcyclists just ride like that when there's not much traffic to have a bit of fun. However, people sometimes "drive" Schlangenlinien or people also walk, it is also possible to walk, when they are drunk and can no longer simply walk straight ahead. These are Schlangenlinien.

We're going to the Schweinehund. The Schweinehund may be an animal, actually there are two, the pig and the dog. The Schweinehund is an animal that you may know quite well. This is the one who says in you: Today I don't have time to learn German. He also says I actually have to lose three kilos, but the chocolate tastes so good. And who also says that I actually have to do sports, but it's so cold outside. The Schweinehund is practically the one who wants to keep you from your good plans and resolutions. It is sometimes very strong. And there are people who have even given their Schweinehund a name. There is a book by Stefan Frädrich, who calls his Schweinehund Günter. Günter, the inner Schweinehund. Maybe you've heard that before. I think Stefan Frädrich is the author.

And last but not least, I still have the Gänsehaut. The Gänsehaut is actually what you have on your skin, here, when you are cold or when you are very excited, then you notice that you are so small here - that the hairs all stand up and it gets very rough. And that's called Gänsehaut.

And these are my words for you today. So, we had the Eselsohr, the Bücherwurm, the Dreckspatz, the Katzenwäsche, the Frosch im Hals, the Pflingstochse, the Schlangenlinien, the Schweinehund, and the Gänsehaut. These words are useful in German. You use them a lot, they are beautiful, and they make your language very

authentic. You speak like a real German when you use them.

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